

Northampton Mercury

Thursday, December 1, 2011

First published 1720

Aidy is a man on a mission as new Town boss See SPORT

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Past comes alive as we go digital

MORE than 130 years of the Mercury's archives are available online for the first time this week.

The British Library and online publisher brightsolid have together launched the British Newspaper Archive website, offering access to up to four million fully searchable pages from 200 UK newspapers.

It includes every edition of the *Northampton Mercury* from 1770 to 1903.

The *Mercury*, which was the UK's oldest newspaper with a proven record of continuous publication, was first published in 1720.

Peter Clarke, editor of the *Mercury* from 1982-93 and again in 1998, and now assistant editor of the *Chronicle & Echo*, said: "The paper was founded in May 1720, so it's a pity that the very early editions are not on the website, although they are available in the Central Library, in Abington Street, Northampton.

"These would have covered world scoops such

as the retreat of Bonnie Prince Charlie from Derby in 1745 and, even earlier, the South Seas Bubble scandal of 1721.

"The digitised archive will be a valuable resource for researchers as the years 1770-1903 really saw the birth of local newspapers as we know them today."

Over the past 12 months staff from the partnership based at the British Library Newspaper Library at Colindale, in London, have been digitising up to 8,000 pages of historic newspapers every working day.

The project is expected to scan up to 40 million newspaper pages over the next 10 years, and transform research.

Access to the online archive is available through subscription, or pay-per-view.

Ed King, the British Library's head of newspapers, said: "The ability to search across millions of articles will yield results for each user, that might previously have been the work of weeks or months."

Some key events in Northampton:

- 1787** public execution of the Culworth gang who terrorised Northamptonshire.
- 1809** Spencer Perceval, the town's MP, becomes Prime Minister. He was assassinated in 1812.
- 1845** First railway station opened at Bridge Street.
- 1864** Guildhall built
- 1880** Radical atheist Charles Bradlaugh elected MP
- 1896** First motor vehicle driven through town



Peter Clarke, editor of the *Northampton Mercury* from 1982-93 and again in 1998 looks at a copy of the very first edition of May 2, 1720

Upheaval as public sector staff stage major strike

MORE than 1,000 teachers, police staff, council workers and paramedics marched through the streets of Northampton yesterday in one of the biggest public sector strikes to hit the town in generations.

The industrial action, thought to be the biggest day of strikes in the town for 80 years, led to the closure of hundreds of schools, police staff staging picket lines and patients in Northamptonshire being told to only phone for an ambulance in a 'life-threatening' emergency.

Every secondary school in Northampton was affected by full or partial closures, with hundreds more primary schools cancelling classes.

At Northamptonshire Police, PCSOs, control room operators, custody assistants, forensics staff and enquiry desk staff were among those to join the strike in a row over public sector pensions.

Peter Lake, Unison branch secretary, said: "The most scandalous element of the ministers' proposals is that the additional money we are being asked to pay will not even go into the pension fund. How can this be reasonable?

"This is a difficult dispute for us, as our grievances are not with Northamptonshire Police, or the public, but with Government ministers."



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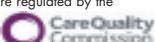
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Sickle cell and thalassaemia can arise when both parents carry the abnormal gene

Counselling service for mums-to-be

A FULL time NHS counselling service is to be launched in Northamptonshire for pregnant women diagnosed with inherited blood conditions, such as sickle-cell disease, and their partners.

The Specialist Sickle Cell and thalassaemia nurse counsellor was previously only a part-time service, and the move means capacity will double, allowing more patients to be seen.

Dr Darin Seiger, chairman of the Nene Commissioning group of GPs, said although exact numbers of people with each condition were unknown, Northamptonshire was acknowledged to be an area of high prevalence for both.

He said: "We know these diagnoses can be very traumatic for the patient. Both have life-changing and life-limiting consequences including, in many cases, compromising the ability to have children.

"It's essential that we have an effective and supportive counselling service in place to help people

come to terms with their condition and manage it."

Both diseases are inherited and can arise if both parents are carriers of the abnormal gene.

Sickle-cell disease is where permanently contorted – or 'sickled' – red blood cells stop oxygen getting to the body's major joints and internal organs.

In thalassaemia, the red cells are small and too few in number, leading to a type of anaemia.

With severe forms, patients get tired very easily and need frequent blood transfusions to remain healthy.

The counselling service will complement Northamptonshire's screening programme for the two conditions, which is offered to pregnant women and partners of identified carrier mothers.

Experts estimate that improvements in the coordination and delivery of care through these sorts of schemes could slash, by up to five per cent, the number of in-patient and emergency hospital admissions caused by inherited blood diseases.

Zero tolerance on yobs

POLICE have seized alcohol from more than 500 people in the last three months as the force takes a "zero tolerance" approach to street-drinking and anti-social behaviour in Northampton town centre.

Four people have been arrested for public order offences, and two anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) have also been given as part of the dedicated crackdown.

Sgt Matt Phillips, who is leading the on-going operation, said:

"A survey we conducted at a street briefing highlighted that people were congregating in certain areas of the town centre, drinking alcohol, being rowdy and intimidating members of the public.

"This behaviour was of concern to people during the day and early evening and, as a result of it becoming an identified priority, we launched an operation to tackle it through both education and enforcement."

Sign up to sing along

A SENIOR councilor has pledged that dementia care services in Northampton will expand to meet demand from the county's ageing population.

Councillor Robin Brown (Con, Braunston) the cabinet member for social services, gave the assurance at the Drayton Centre in St David's, Northampton, a day centre that relieves carers of people with dementia.

He said that, as the number of older people increased, all kinds of dementia services would need to grow. Current estimates showed there were 7,000 people diagnosed with some form of dementia in Northamptonshire but that the total will go up by 50 per cent by 2025.

Record breaking

SCHOOLCHILDREN in Northampton are being invited to help break a world record for the most young people signing and singing at the same time.

Pupils in the town are being asked to register for the sign2sing event, which is being organised by national deaf healthcare charity, SignHealth on February 8, 2012.

The event is designed to raise awareness of deafness and the work of SignHealth, as well as acting as a fundraiser for the charity.

For more information, call SignHealth on 01494 687600 or visit the website www.sign2sing.org.uk

Roadworks warnings

VILLAGES near the A43 in south Northamptonshire are being warned to expect disruption during three weeks of road works.

Highways Agency contractors began the work between the M40 and the A421 Barley Mow roundabout last week which is expected to last until Sunday, December 11.

The work will require overnight closures in both directions between 8pm and 6am with diversions through Farthinghoe and Croughton. The work includes resurfacing, the renewal of road markings and cat's eyes, and road signs.



Michael Collins (EMAS), Sarah Forsey (British Heart Foundation, which is paying for a defibrillator), Martyn Emberson (Chief Fire Officer), Councillor Andre Gonzalez de Savage and Ash Bansal (EMAS) at the launch
Picture by KELLY COOPER mnce-25-11-11-KC-2

Firefighters on hand to help treat injured

FIREFIGHTERS said they have already started improving the lives of seriously ill Northamptonshire people by getting to a patient faster than an ambulance.

Selected firefighters have started their training with the East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) to improve their life-saving skills, allowing them to save lives with automatic defibrillators and other kit.

At the official launch of the scheme at Moulton Way Fire Station yesterday, firefighters said they had already been called out in their own time to medical emergencies.

Martyn Emberson, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service's chief fire of-

ficer, one of six crew currently trained, said: "I've been out several times and had to use my new training."

"I'm not certain I have saved a life yet but I can honestly say I have made life comfortable for someone in the community."

Eventually all firefighters will get the new medical training, with volunteers registering their mobile numbers with the ambulance service then informing the control room when they are off duty and available.

Alerts will be sent to them when appropriate patients, for example heart attack victims or people with breathing problems, place a 999 call from within five miles. An ambulance will also be sent as normal.

In similar schemes, trained members

of the public can volunteer to be bleeped. But the advantage with having the firefighters on board is they can use emergency blue lights to get to an emergency even quicker.

They can start treatment and basic assessment with the same type of kit paramedics use before the ambulance gets there.

Mick Conlon, group manager at the fire service, said: "I've already been to a house where the husband answered the door and almost sagged with relief and said 'thank goodness you're here'."

"It didn't matter that I wasn't wearing a paramedic's uniform. In an emergency you just want someone to help."

For more details visit www.emas.nhs.uk/get-involved/cfr/

Pupils take on hats charity challenge



Children from Cedar Road Primary School, Northampton, with their knitted smoothie hats
Contributed picture

CHILDREN from Cedar Road Primary School in Northampton have joined in a charity challenge to knit "hats" for drinks bottles.

The pupils have been helping Age UK Northamptonshire raise money through The Big Knit campaign.

They are among a number of people throughout the county who have been knitting woolen hats to decorate Innocent Smoothie bottles in Boots stores.

A total of 25p from every hatted bottle bought then goes to a local Age UK branch.

Susie Davies, fundraiser

for the county branch of the charity said: "It's a great idea."

"For each sale a percentage comes back to Age UK Northamptonshire and helps support older people in the county."

"As well as schools, day centres, lunch clubs have also been involved."

A spokesman for the drinks manufacturer said: "Over the years, we've been sent hats of all different shapes and sizes, from all over the world."

"They come from people who've been knitting for years to those who've just picked up their needles for the first time."

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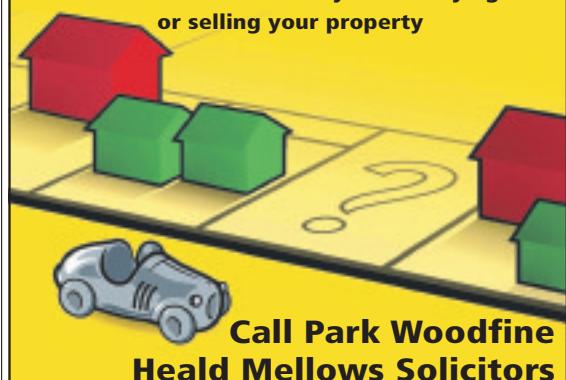


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NHS ad is a winner

A HARD-HITTING TV advertisement about the horrors of binge drinking has won two national awards. NHS Northamptonshire has won Best Social Marketing and Award of Excellence categories at the Association of Healthcare Communications and Marketing (AHCM) Awards 2011.

The award was in recognition of its anti-binge drinking TV advertisement "Another Night Wasted", produced by Atticus Finch.



Clockwise from above: the contestants; Isla St Clair and her dancing partner Gary Newbury; Keiran the sell-out crowd; and Britain's Got Talent star Faryl Smith entertaining

Top score for





Cherry and Caroline Pugh;
Pictures by KIRSTY EDMONDS



cricketer Rob

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE county cricketer Rob White and his dance partner Ruth Supple were crowned the winners of Strictly Northampton 2011, as it was announced the competition had raised around £30,000 for the Chronicle & Echo's charity appeal.

The pair received a flurry of top marks for their waltz, jive and cricket-inspired freestyle routine in front of a sell-out crowd of more than 1,000 people at the Royal & Derngate theatre in Northampton on Saturday night.

Speaking afterwards batsman Rob said: "I'm on such an adrenaline high. I had hoped we would get into the final and do well, but to win it is something special."

"It's been a great night, I've

made some good friends in the competition and how many people can say they've performed in front of a sell-out crowd at the Derngate?

"I can't speak highly enough of everyone at Step by Step Dance School, my partner Ruth and my team mates at Northants, who didn't give me as much stick as I thought they would."

Rob's dance partner Ruth Supple, the editor of *Image* magazine was a "celebrity" contestant in last year's Strictly Chon Dancing, and was asked to join this year's show as one of the Step By Step dancers.

She said: "I am elated. I am on a huge high. I'm over the moon. I'm absolutely thrilled we won. I think Rob was the best celebrity dancer so I got the best partner."

"He deserved to win. He's put in so many hours and been so dedicated."

"I have just fallen in love with dancing and it was a huge honour just to be asked to take part in this year's competition, so to win it is absolutely amazing."

Strictly Northampton was run by the *Chron*, Step by Step Dance School, BBC Radio Northampton and *Image* magazine and sponsored by Barclaycard.

It has raised an estimated £30,000 for the *Chron*'s and Macmillan Cancer Support's £1.55 million campaign to fund a new cancer treatment unit at Northampton General Hospital.

■ The winners of the raffle were as follows: Green 117 - two tickets to see Def Leppard and Orange 86 - two tickets to see the Anton and Erin show. To claim your prize, please bring your ticket to the *Chron*'s office in Upper Mounts.



Tips to beat cold

PEOPLE are being urged to check on the elderly this winter.

Age Concern UK is providing a range of tips to help protect older people as part of a campaign being launched called Keep The Cold Out.

Last winter, a total of 362 elderly people in Northamptonshire died from causes relating to the cold, up from 267 the previous year.

Tips released by the charity include taking care in icy conditions and making sure the heating works.

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PCSO bids to stop speeding drivers



A DEDICATED PCSO for Brackmills is leading a winter crackdown on speeding motorists at the Northampton industrial estate.

The police operation has been led by PCSO Ian Taylor to cut

speeding and promote road safety in and around the business park.

PCSO Taylor, who is funded by businesses in Brackmills, said: "Road safety is a priority on Brackmills.

"This operation was a great

opportunity for the police to continue working closely with the estate, to raise awareness about the importance of safe driving, particularly during the winter when conditions can become more hazardous."

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Crowds gather in Northampton Market Square for the big switch on

Santa joins in via satellite

DOZENS of children enjoyed the switch on of thousands of lights on the biggest Christmas tree Northampton has ever seen.

The crowd cheered as *Strictly Come Dancing's* Brian Fortuna switched on the lights on the 60ft tree in the Market Square at the culmination of a festive launch event on Saturday.

A flurry of "snowfall" added to the atmosphere as lights went on across the town centre.

This year also saw the introduction of a satellite link for children to speak to Father Christmas at the North Pole.

Several times during the afternoon Father Christmas appeared on a large screen in the square to read children's letters and speak to them.

Hosted by John Griff, of BBC Radio Northampton, there was nearly three hours of entertainment, including performances from singer Leanne Boyes and winner of Northampton's Got Tal-

ent 2011, Lauren Jones, as well as street theatre and craft workshops.

Stars from the Royal & Derngate's Christmas productions also made an appearance on the stage.

Alice and the Mad Hatter, from *Alice in Wonderland*, made balloon animals, while Basil Brush, starring in the pantomime, *Aladdin*, joined Father Christmas on the satellite link.

Aladdin himself, dancer and performer Brian Fortuna, also signed autographs.

Northampton borough council leader, councillor David Mackintosh (*Rectory Farm, Con*), said: "I think it was a great event for families and bringing people back into the town centre."

He said beaming in Father Christmas and Basil Brush was a novel idea, and added: "It was great to see everyone with a smile on their face. It was a good turnout and it was great to see the Christmas magic with the snow."



Aladdin (*Strictly* star Brian Fortuna) switches on the lights and (inset) Father Christmas and his helper Basil Brush were beamed in via a satellite link

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PM hears about town's big plans

THE leader of Northampton Borough Council has been discussing the town's enterprise zone with the Prime Minister in a bid to raise the town's profile.

Councillor David Mackintosh (*Rectory Farm, Com*) said David Cameron was interested to hear about issues affecting Northampton when he spent 10 minutes chatting to him at 10 Downing Street.

Councillor Mackintosh said: "I managed to get some time with the Prime Minister and we talked about a lot of issues."

"He was asking about all the issues that affected Northampton."

Councillor Mackintosh said the enterprise zone, announced in August, was a big priority for the Government: "He was interested to hear how it's developing in Northampton."

"He was asking about what impact it will have on the local economy."

The enterprise zone was said to put Northampton "firmly on the business map" when it was announced earlier this year.

The zone will pave the way for 17,000 new jobs and £1 billion of investment by 2021, and almost 400 new businesses and 7,700 new jobs within three years.



Artist's impression of the Waterside Enterprise Zone plans

Detailed plans for the zone, which will cover 120 hectares and stretch from Sixfields to Brackmills, are currently being developed and will be announced in the new year.

The council is receiving interest from companies wanting to locate in the new zone, one of only 11 created by the Government.

Businesses will be given special terms in order to boost growth, which it is hoped will attract

the best firms from around the world.

In Northampton, plans are being drawn up to transform the town's riverside into a national centre of excellence for advanced technologies and performance engineering.

Councillor Mackintosh said: "I wanted to make sure the Prime Minister was aware of the brilliant and exciting things that are going on in our town."

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Vehicles shown are New Cruze 2.0 VCDi LTZ Hatchback and Orlando 2.0 VCDi LTZ. Under the Motability Contract Hire Scheme for new cars, a driver can get the use of a Cruze 1.6 LT Auto for three years by paying the Total Weekly Allowance (Nil Advance Payment) from the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance, or an Orlando 1.8 LS by paying the Total Weekly Allowance (£399 Advance Payment). For applications approved by 31st December 2011. The facilities offered are for the hire (aliment) of goods. The Motability Contract Hire Scheme is administered by Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876), City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 9HB. To qualify you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement which will be taken in lieu of the four weekly rental. Full written details, including terms and conditions, are available on request. Models shown in the thumbnails are not all UK specification and may feature optional extras at additional cost. Vehicles currently available in the UK are Spark, Cruze, Orlando and Captiva. For more information visit www.chevrolet.co.uk. All figures correct at time of going to press. Calls may be recorded and monitored for training purposes.

Official Government Environmental Data. Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (Litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). New Cruze 1.6 LT Hatchback: Urban - 31.7 (8.9), Extra Urban - 54.3 (5.2), Combined - 42.8 (6.6). CO₂ emissions 153g/km. Orlando 1.8 LS: Urban - 29.1 (9.7), Extra Urban - 47.9 (5.9), Combined - 38.7 (7.3). CO₂ emissions 172g/km.



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App-y Christmas from top chef

RECIPES by Michelin star chef Adam Gray will be included in a festive "app" designed to help cooks create tasty dishes in their own homes this Christmas.

Festive, which will be compatible with the iPhone and iPad, is the latest application to come from Great British Chefs, and aims to offer a festive menu with a difference.

Containing 60 recipes for a range of skill levels, the app allows food lovers to attempt single dishes and full five-course menus, with the help of step-by-step guides, photographs, "how-to" videos and a voice-control function for hands-free usage.

It also comes with ingredient

lists, cooking times and wine recommendations.

The app features recipes created by 12 of the UK's best chefs, including Northamptonshire-based Mr Gray, who co-owns The Red Lion pub in East Haddon and has held a Michelin star for the past 11 years.

He contributed about 35 recipes to reflect the seasonal British food he serves in the pub restaurant.

He said: "I was really pleased to be asked to do this app. It's amazing and I'm over the moon to be included."

"I think the app itself – giving access to all the leading chefs of Great Britain with their recipes – is absolutely fantastic.

"Both that and the website have

been put together very nicely and are really simple.

"What's great is it's also raising the profile of Northamptonshire as well; the fact we are a destination place to come for great food."

The Festive app is on sale on iTunes for £1.99.

A free upgrade to 23 chefs and 110 recipes will be available from December 1.

Visit www.greatbritishchefs.com, go to www.facebook.com/greatbritishchefs or follow @gbchefs on Twitter.

Adam Gray in the kitchen of The Red Lion in East Haddon



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Food plea
for meals
charity

SHOPPERS at a Northampton supermarket are being asked to buy one extra piece of food to donate to a charity Christmas project.

The FareShare charity will deliver the items given by customers of Sainsbury's in Westgate Industrial Estate, to county charities and community projects as part of the One Million Meals Appeal.

Keren runs to help animals

A VOLUNTEER at an animal rescue centre in Northamptonshire will run a half marathon next month to raise money to help its work.

Keren Irving hopes to complete the 13.1 miles of the Bedford Half Marathon on Sunday, December 11, in about two-and-a-half hours, to raise about £3,000 for Little Irchester-based Animals in Need, where she has helped out for the past year.

The 42-year-old, who lives in Earls Barton, is a member of Northampton Road

Runners running club. She said: "I've done the Great North Run before for other charities but this is the first time I've done the Bedford Half Marathon, and the first time I've raised money for Animals in Need.

"I've worked there for a year as a volunteer. I first started doing a minimum four hours a week but it's an infectious place and once you visit you realise all the good they're doing and just want to help more.



Animals in Need volunteer Keren Irving with centre manager Annie Marriott and Tigg the lurcher

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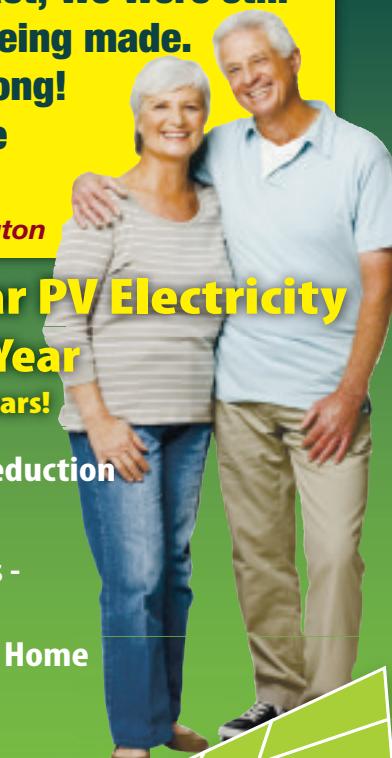
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Goodbye after 36 years on the wards

A STAFF nurse at Northampton General Hospital has retiring after 36 years . . . all as a junior sister.

Monica Noel, from Standens Barn, Northampton, leaves as a nurse on Willow Ward, for vascular surgery patients, but has worked in almost every department and claims to now know the majority of staff at the site.

Having started as a cadet nurse and moved to NGH in 1974, not counting time off to have her children, she has amassed nearly 40 years of care. Yet she was more than happy never to move up the ladder.

She said: "What reason is there for me to change? There's not any other job where you get so much reward."

"I love the contact with patients, especially when they come back after they're well again. I would have lost that by going for another position.

"There needs to be a bridge between staff and in my job I get the best of all worlds. I've no regrets."

Regarding the changes she had seen, Mrs Noel, aged 58, listed the less formal nurse's uniforms as a significant change.

But she also said nurses



had far less time with patients now than at the beginning of her career.

She said: "The hospital is many times busier than when I first started. The turnover is very quick now but you did have more time to spend with people."

"There was also time on the job to sit down and get training. Now so much of that has to be done in your own time."

Willow Ward nurses said goodbye yesterday with flowers and gifts and were fulsome in their praise of their long-standing colleague.

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Functions cancelled as hall is to be sold

THE future of a long-standing Masonic hall in Northampton is in doubt after its owners confirmed the building has been put up for sale.

St George's Hall, in St George's Avenue, near The Racecourse, is to "cease trading as a commercial business" at the end of May next year.

Weddings and business functions booked after that time have already been cancelled, the owners confirmed.

Any booking before the closing date will still be honoured, a spokesman said, adding that the local Freemasons would be looking for a new home in Northampton once the building has been sold.

Trevor Boswell, provincial grand secretary of the Masonic province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, said the decision to stop trading was down to the "economic downturn".

He said staff employed at the hall would continue to be

"gainfully employed" until the closing date, but the future of the commercial side of the business would not be decided until a new home is found.

St George's Hall has been the home of Freemasonry in Northampton since 1971.

Mr Boswell added: "The Freemasons are intending to move elsewhere in the town, the reason for that is because like everybody else, the downturn in our business has affected us, as has the increasing costs of running the business."

"As yet where we are moving to and when we are going depends on when the building is sold. But as from May 31, 2012, we will no longer be trading for outside functions."

The hall includes a 60-feet-long ballroom which holds more than 300 people, a lounge room and two function rooms.

Provincial Grand Master Max Bayes added: "We apologise to all those who this action affects."

Medals from two world wars go to auction

A MILITARY Cross and nine other medals awarded to a Northampton soldier for his service during the two world wars, have been put up for auction.

Colonel Henry Drew-Smythe, who was born in Northampton in 1891, served in the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) and saw action in France and Italy from 1914 to 1918.

He was awarded a Military Cross for "conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty" shown during an evacuation of Asiago, Italy.

A report published in the *London Gazette* on December 10, 1919, stated that Mr Drew-Smythe "personally saw to the safe withdrawal of his men" despite intense shelling and machine gun fire.

The story added: "It was mainly owing to his disregard of danger, his ini-

tiative and devotion to duty, that the long line of evacuation was kept working smoothly."

During World War Two, he served with the RAMC in India where he commanded a number of base hospitals.

Col Drew-Smythe died in 1983 and the current owner of his 10 war medals, a collector, has now put them up for sale at an auction conducted by specialist London auctioneers, Morton & Eden, on December 1.

The collection of medals is expected to be sold for between £1,500 and £1,800.

The son of a Baptist Minister, Mr Drew-Smythe was educated at Taunton School and he studied medicine in Bristol and London.

He was mobilised at the outset of war, while in 1919 he served with the International Commission for the Repatriation of Prisoners.

Probe into railway incident

TRAIN operator London Midland has pledged to hold a full review of an incident on Wednesday last week in which a failure in overhead lines between Northampton and Wolverton caused

lengthy delays for commuters. The train operator released a full explanation and apology yesterday to those caught up in the disruption, which saw rail staff and trains stranded.



St George's Hall, near The Racecourse, Northampton, has been home of Freemasonry in Northampton since 1971

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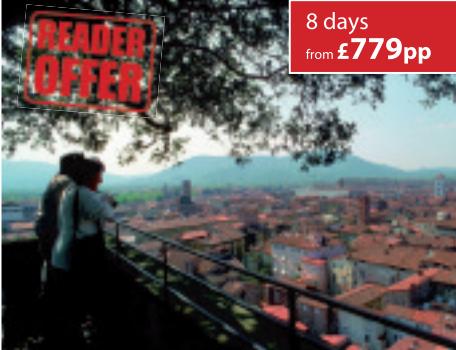
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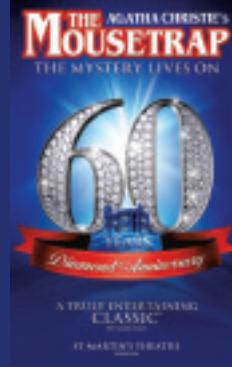
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Cadets clock up volunteer hours



Police cadets from Northampton College on parade in the town centre

TEENAGE Police Cadets have already completed more than 300 hours of work in Northampton after the college scheme was launched in the summer.

The Volunteer Police Cadet scheme was launched in partnership with Northampton College at the end of June and since then the group of 16 and 17-year-olds has completed more than 12 full days of police work between them.

The group of 21 cadets

has been working with local police officers, PCSOs and special constables to gain skills to help them experience working within public services.

The group is currently undertaking a BTEC level two qualification in public services.

Yvonne Mason, who helps to run the programme, said completing the voluntary work would help them towards the qualification.

She said: "The cadets are working well towards achieving the qualifica-

tion.

"Feedback from the team has been very positive and they have already contributed almost 300 hours of voluntary work."

The cadets have taken part in the force's open day, supported police operations such as Operation Guardian, and have also helped to raise funds for charities.

They recently raised £300 for Grace's Fund following a sponsored canoe.

The cadets also took part in the Remembrance Day parade.

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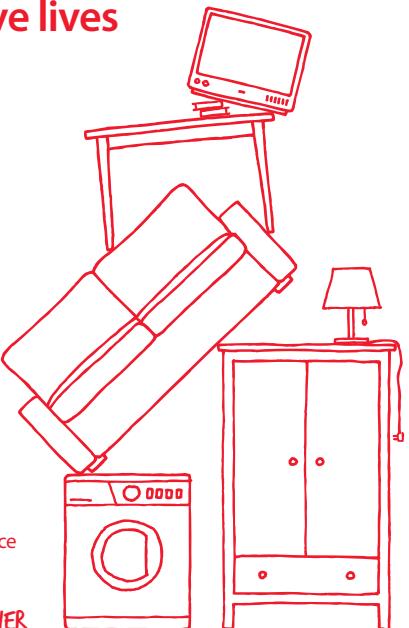
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James Smyth, David Griffiths and Keiffer Courtney-Lee have new karaoke machines

A KARAOKE supply company has generously donated singing machines free of charge to three men with learning disabilities at the centre of a row over a pub's karaoke night.

The *Chronicle & Echo* reported this week how 23-year-old James Smyth, who has Down's syndrome, was told he could not perform at a regular karaoke session at The Abingdon pub, in Wellingborough Road, Northampton, because of an alleged lack of singing ability.

His carers said that last Friday they were told James would not be allowed to sing at the pub in the future, along with his friends and singing partners, David Griffiths and Keiffer Courtney-Lee.

Pub owner Neil Bartholomey claimed the decision was taken "purely on singing ability" and

on Monday denied the group had been banned and were welcome to perform "every couple of weeks" if they wanted to.

He added the issue had been "blown out of proportion".

After reading about the row, Bournemouth-based company A1 Karaoke Nights has sent the trio a karaoke machine each, together with microphones and discs with more than 700 karaoke songs, so they can "have a sing-song and a bit of fun whenever they like".

Managing director Jay Taylor said: "I saw the story and I was disgusted with what I read.

"I looked at the *Chron*'s website and thought 'that's not right'.

"Obviously we have a lot of karaoke machines and I thought it would be good to do something to cheer them up a little bit, as it's really not a nice situation.

"It's awful that anybody would be asked not to sing at a karaoke night for being out of tune."

"Karaoke is just a bit of fun; it's not the X Factor stage. People, good or bad, go along to enjoy themselves."

"You don't get many news stories about karaoke and this one has been flagged up for the wrong reasons, and that was disappointing."

Alex Duggan, manager of Ryan QC Homes supported accommodation in Cherry Lodge, Northampton, where James, David and Keiffer live, said: "I'd like to thank A1 for their really nice gesture.

"I'm sure James, David and Keiffer will really like having their own machines at home."

"It's a fantastic, generous gesture and really welcome good news. Karaoke is quite a big part of their lives and they will really like this."

"We have four other homes as well as the one where James, David and Keiffer live, and all the residents love singing."

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New mum Maxine Fleming is appealing for a stolen camera with pictures of her new baby daughter on to be returned

Baby photos go in theft

A "DEVASTATED" mum-of-three has appealed for the thief who broke into her car and stole a digital camera to return irreplaceable photos of her baby daughter.

On Wednesday morning, Maxine Fleming, aged 39, of Lakeside Drive, Ecton Brook, Northampton, discovered her Citroen Picasso had been broken into over night while it was parked on her drive.

New clothes she had bought for her four-month-old daughter, Alice, had been stolen along with a digital camera the thief had discovered after rifling through a baby changing bag.

Mrs Fleming said she was devastated about the loss of photographs of her third daughter and pleaded for the thief to return the camera's memory card with the precious pictures.

She said: "I went out to my car on Wednesday and found the driver's door was half open.

"Then I realised it was the same with the boot.

"The thief had closed both doors but they hadn't shut properly.

"A couple of tops I had bought for my little girl had been taken from bags inside.

"Then I went to take a photo of my daughter today and realised that my cam-

era had been stolen as well.

"It had photos of my daughter on who is only four months old. It had loads of pictures of her from when I first had her and it had pictures of my other daughters holding her. I'm devastated."

Mr Fleming has appealed for the thief to return the memory card.

She said: "I don't particularly care about the camera, I just want the photos. I can't explain how happy I would be to get them back."

The camera was a silver Canon Ixus inside a pink hard case. Anyone with information can ring police on 101, quoting NP/41031-11.

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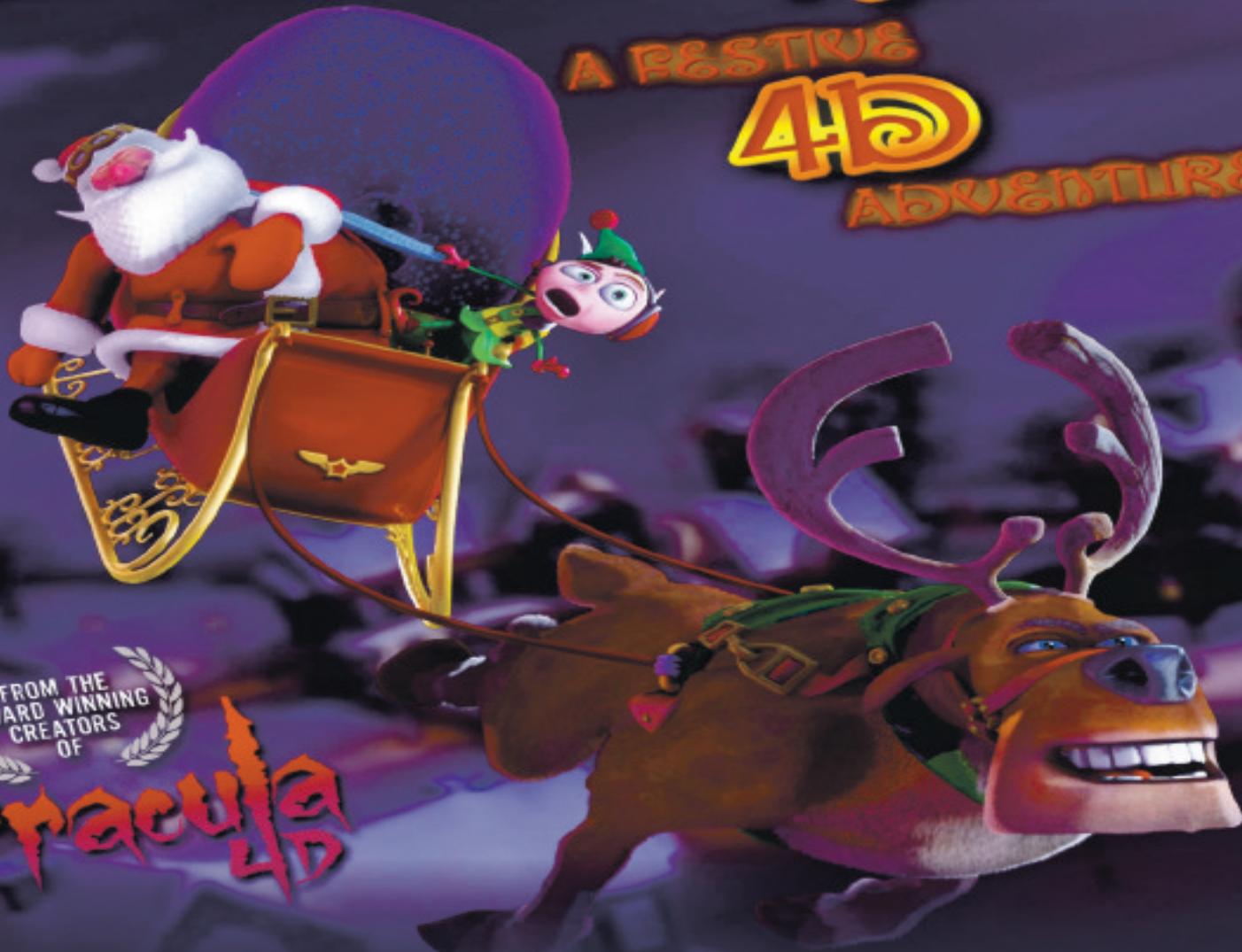
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Entertainment

FRIDAY

MUSIC

Northampton: Nina, Kingsley Park WMC.

Northampton: Curvy Love Dogz, King Billy, bottom of Bridge Street.

Northampton: Earth Man Sounds, Jessie from Inspirational Radio, The Crispin, Clare Street, 8pm-late.

Northampton: Mystic Crew, Golden Horse, Southampton Road.

Northampton: Jenna, Vocal Club, Bailiff Street.

THEATRE

Northampton: Alice in Wonderland, Royal stage, 2.15pm and 7.15pm. Box office 01604 624811.

Northampton: Abbey Community Theatre presents Knight Fever – The Panto, Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury. Box office 01604 761418.

Roade: Jack and the Beanstalk, Looking Glass Theatre, Roade community centre, 7.30pm. Box office 07711 540 546 or visit info@lookingglasstheatre.co.uk

OTHER

Moulton: Litter pick at Boughton Lane Pocket Park (entrance opp Cottingham Drive), Moulton, from 10am. 01604 630719.

Northampton: Open exhibition at The Nook, Fishmarket, Dec 1-31.

Rothwell: Gala evening, Market Hill Square, 6pm; outdoor event with stalls, street entertainment and activities for children.

SATURDAY

MUSIC

Blisworth: The Bighead (ska band), Walnut Tree, Station Road, 9.30pm.

Brafield: Richard Devereaux (vocalist), WMC, Bedford Road (A428), food available.

Hannington: Hoagy, Hornpipes, Handel & Hoedown, a mix of folk, swing, blues and classical show-stoppers, village hall, 7.30pm. Box office 01604 781850.

Kislingbury: The Richtones Christmas Songs at the Christmas Market and Tree Festival, Kislingbury House, Bugbrooke Road, 2pm-6pm.

Northampton: Northampton Amateur Operatic Concert Group, carols and Christmas music, Wardington Court, Welford Road, 7pm. Tickets on 01604 671799 or on the door.

Northampton: Tripping on Tradition, Sean Grew's first gig back in town, Thomas a Becket, St James.

Northampton: The Jets, The Picturedrome, Kettering Road. 01604 230777.

Northampton: Uncle Ray Band, The Rover, Weedon Road, 9pm.

Northampton: Russ Bradley, Crown and Anchor, Victoria Road.

Northampton: Ambush, King Billy, bottom of Bridge Street, 9pm.

Northampton: Expressive Harmony, Queen's Park WMC, Cranbrook Road.

Northampton: Dale David, Northampton WMC, Sheep Street.

Northampton: Candy Slam, Molly's Bar, Abington Square.

Northampton: Sarah Quinn, British Rail Club, St Andrew's Road.

Northampton: Pierina & Kyla (duo), Foundryman's Arms, St James.

Northampton: Mystic Crew, Monks Park WMC, Wellingborough Road.

Northampton: Sonny & The Honeydippers, Kingsley Park WMC.

THEATRE

Lilbourne: Jack and the Beanstalk, Looking Glass Theatre, village hall, 7pm. Box office 07711 540 546.

Northampton: Alice in Wonderland, Royal stage, 1.15pm and 5.15pm. Box office 01604 624811.

Northampton: That'll Be The Day Christmas Show, Derngate stage, 7.30pm. Box office 01604 624811.

Northampton: Abbey Community Theatre presents Knight Fever – the Panto, Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury, 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Box office 01604 761418.

SHOWS AND SALES

Earls Barton: My Little Vintage Christmas Fair, home-made and collectable items, clothing, accessories, cakes and teas, All Saints' Church Hall, 10.30am-3pm.

Finedon: Christmas bazaar, Independent Wesleyan Church, 11am-2pm.

Harlestone: Christmas Fayre, St Andrew's Church, 11am-4pm, adm £2.

Kislingbury: Christmas Market and Tree Festival, Kislingbury House, Bugbrooke Road, 2pm-6pm.

Litchborough: Christmas Fayre, variety of stalls, St Martin's Church, refreshments in the Village Hall, 11am.

Northampton: Fairfields School Christmas Fayre, Trinity Avenue, midday-3pm; stalls, activities.

Northampton: Christmas Tree Festival and Fayre, St Francis Church, Eastfield Road, Duston, 11am-3.30pm.

Northampton: Antiques Fayre, Abington Parish Rooms, Park Avenue North, 10am-4pm.

Northampton: Christmas bazaar, Christchurch Hall, Wellingborough Road, 1pm-3pm.

Northampton: Bridgewater Primary School fete 2pm-4pm; stalls. Santa, school choir, 2pm-4pm.

Northampton: Christmas craft fayre, 10am-4pm; stalls, coffee shop and garden centre, Workbridge Centre, Old Laundry, Bedford Road.

Northampton: Christmas craft fayre, King Billy, bottom of Bridge Street, 11am-5pm.

Northampton: Table top sale, Royal Navy & Royal Marines Club, Lorne Road, 10am-2pm. Tables £5 in advance on 07905 702318 (after 6pm) or £7 on the day.

Northampton: Christmas fayre, Kingsthorpe Baptist Church (entrance rear of Waitrose car park), 10am; stalls and refreshments

Northampton: Costumes for £1. Amateur drama group Masque Theatre's costume sale; retro-type costumes £1 and some ballgowns styled, 10am-midday, Southfields store. 01604 711317.

Rushden: Christmas Tree Festival, Hope Methodist Church, Park Road, 10am-4pm.

Thornby: Christmas fayre, village hall, 2pm.

Thrapston: St John Ambulance Christmas Fayre, St John Ambulance Hall, 2pm-4.30pm.

OTHER

Daventry: Town Council Museum, open 10am-4pm for Christmas in War Times exhibition; children's activities during the day and refreshments.

Northampton: Darts exhibition with Bobby George,

live at Barratts, Kingsthorpe Road, 7pm. Tickets £5. Call into venue.

Northampton: Northampton Younger Persons' Parkinson's Disease Support Group, monthly meeting, Queen Adelaide ph, Kingsthorpe village, 10.30am; for ages 65 and under.

Northampton: C W Fitness Line Dance, Old House, Wellingborough Road, 12.30pm.

Northampton: Shoe Store Tour, Museum and Art Gallery, Guildhall Road, 10.30am-midday; tickets £3.50 on 01604 838111.

SUNDAY

MUSIC

Blisworth: Jazzin' Around with Ken Pye's 'Kid Thomas' Band, New Orleans revisited, Walnut Tree, Station Road, midday-2.30pm. Adm £6.

Brafield: Rita Pererer (vocalist), WMC, Bedford Road (A428), 7.30pm.

Gatton: Victoria Christmas with Fiori Choir, seasonal celebrations of carols and readings, St Mary the Virgin Church, 7.30pm. Tickets on 01327 360931 or on the door.

Northampton: Live bands – Replicant, Held Beneath, Skies of Deceit, Divine Solace and Koroze, King Billy, bottom of Bridge Street.

Northampton: Paul Lyon, Monks Park WMC, Wellingborough Road.

Northampton: Rik King, Queen's Park WMC, Cranbrook Road.

Northampton: Keith Tallis, Kingsley Park WMC, Kingsley Park Terrace, 11am-3.30pm.

THEATRE

Evenly: Jack and the Beanstalk, village hall, 5pm. Box office 0711 540 546.

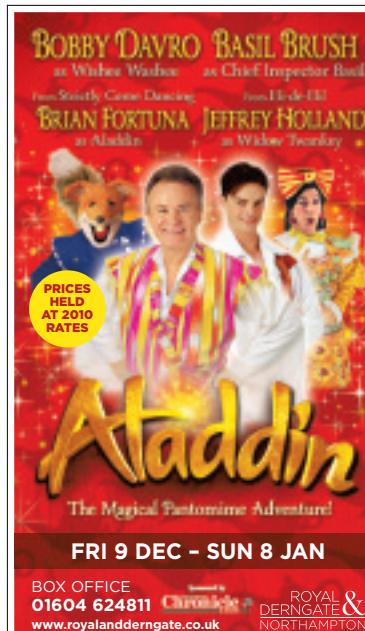
Northampton: Alice in Wonderland, Royal stage, 1.15pm and 5.15pm. Box office 01604 624811.

OTHER

Northampton: Northampton Cyclists' Touring Club, day ride to Oundle via The Addingtons (55 mile total). Meet at Moulton Cop, 9.30am; lights advisable.

SHOWS AND SALES

Pitsford: Festival of Christmas Trees, tombola, mulled wine and mince-pies, All Saints' Church, 11am-3pm (also Dec 11).



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MONEYBALL (12A, 133 mins)
Drama. Brad Pitt, Jonah Hill,
Philip Seymour Hoffman, Robin
Wright. Director: Bennett Miller.

IN the sporting arena, money doesn't just talk, it chatters incessantly. Success is measured by financial worth, creating an uneven playing field. The best teams get richer by continually feeding off their smaller rivals until it becomes almost impossible to bridge the divide. This was the situation facing Billy Beane, the general manager of Oakland Athletics, in 2001 when his team lost the showpiece final game of the season to the mighty New York Yankees.

With the taste of defeat still bitter in his mouth, Beane watched helplessly as bigger teams pilfered three of his star players – Damon, Giambi and Isringhausen – leaving him to rebuild the team on a third of their payroll. Painfully aware he couldn't compete on an equal footing with the big boys, Beane defied conventional wisdom and challenged



the fundamental tenets of the game. Moneyball is an inspirational drama that celebrates Beane's tenacity in the face of stinging criticism, inspiring his minnows to completely change the way baseball is played through unity, self-belief and a smattering of luck. Director Bennett Miller opens his film at the

end of the 2001 season with Oakland suffering that bruising loss to the Yankees. Billy (Brad Pitt) goes cap in hand to the team's owner for more funds but his request is denied: "Don't spend money I don't have!" As Billy searches for a solution, he crosses paths with Yale-educated economist Peter Brand (Jonah Hill), who believes in analysing

data to make crucial decisions. Together, Billy and Peter compile a list of the most under-valued players in the league and bring together this band of misfits and rejects as the new face of the squad.

Gruff team manager Art Howe (Philip Seymour Hoffman) scoffs at the plan, as do members of the old guard.

"You can't put a team together with a computer. Baseball just isn't numbers," argues one adviser.

The season begins with a series of crushing defeats, heaping pressure on Billy and Peter; until the tide turns and miraculously, the A's embark on the longest winning streak in the sport's history.

Moneyball is a classic tale of triumph against adversity but the script, co-written by Steven Zaillian and Aaron Sorkin, doesn't lazily regurgitate clichés of the genre. The film might set up a classic feel good resolution but Miller's piece is smarter than that, laden with snappy dialogue and richly detailed characters.

Pitt impresses as a family man bucking the trend while Hill forgoes his usual comedy shtick

to demonstrate his dramatic range as the number cruncher invited into the inner sanctum.

Archive footage of the A's remarkable season is melded with fiction, giving us a rousing insight into how a bold theory became spectacular reality.

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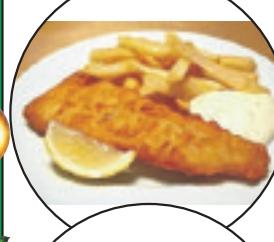
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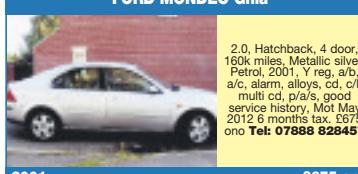
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2002 £1100

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- ▶ Northampton Saints challenge (including special guests to be revealed on the night)
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1999

£795 ono

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1.3 Hatchback, 3 door, 69,000 miles, silver, Petrol, 2003, 03 reg, MOT for 9 months, taxed until end Jan 2012, Condition.. £2350 ono
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1999

£650

£2800 ovno

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1998

£550 ono

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1.4 Petrol, Silver, 06 reg, MOT July 2012, Tax Jan 31st 2012, £3425 ono
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2001

£1,200 ono



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2001

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2001

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2004

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£2800 ovno

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2007

£10,600 ono

Renault**RENAULT MEGANE Dynamique**

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2003

£995

Nissan**Nissan Pathfinder Aventura****Nissan****NISSAN MICRA**

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2000

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NISSAN PRIMERA S

1.8, Hatchback, 5 door, 98000 miles, green, Petrol, 2000, W reg, 6 months MOT, excellent runner, £500 ono Tel: 01933 359015

2000

£500 ono

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2002

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PEUGEOT 206 Look

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2002

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2003

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Toyota Avensis T3-X

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2006

£4,700 ono

Toyota Avensis T3-X

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2006

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Vauxhall



Vauxhall Corsa

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SOLD

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2001 £1150ono

Volkswagen

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£1950ono



VOLKSWAGEN GOLF Final Edition 1.6, Hatchback, 5 door, 76,000 miles, Silver, Petrol, 2004, 53 reg, f/s/h £2750 Tel: 07786838125

2004 £2750

2003 £3500 ono

Volkswagen

Volkswagen Polo S

1.2, Hatchback, 3 door, 97,000 miles, Black, Petrol, 2002, 52 reg, a/c, alarm, abs, cd, e/m, f/s/h, h/f/w, immobiliser, multi cd, p/a/s, stereo, tax, 12 months MOT. Full leather interior-sports traction control vgc. £1495 ono Tel: 07788 199700

2002 £1,550 ono

Volvo

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£1575 ono NO VAT

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1996 £575

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52 reg

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£6650 ovno



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Births**Engagements**

TEW-CLEMENTS
Congratulations to Renae and Tony on the birth and safe homecoming of their twin Sons who were born on 19th November 2011. Kane Albie weighed in at 4lb 14oz and Tyler Jay 3lb 8oz. Thanks to you both for our new additions. Renae you were amazing! With much love from Mum, Dad, Sarah, Rob, Charney, Jude and Abbie xx. Special thanks to all Gosset staff.

**Autumn Wedding Show**

Kettering Conference Centre
Sunday 26th February 2012

Free admission with the chance to win £300 towards your wedding.
Fashion Shows at 11.30am & 1.30pm
01536 506123 for more information

18th Birthday

O'Connor
Rebecca
Bec's 18 today.
"A daughter out grows your lap but never your heart."
Love Mum, Paul and Jemma. X



O'Connor
Rebecca "Bec"
Happy 18th Birthday.
Enjoy your day.
Love Uncle Tony,
Aunty Janette,
Hayley, Sam
and Danielle xx

18th Birthday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Rebecca
O'Connor
Congratulations and very best wishes from Janet, Bert and all the Family xx

Rebecca
O'Connor

Happy Birthday
Darling. Have a lovely weekend, be careful.
Lots of love
Nan and Pap (Milk) xx

**50th Birthday**

LAMBERT
Beverley
Happy 50th Birthday on the 4th December. Congratulations on your special day. Lots of love always, Pete. XXX

40th Birthday

WRIGHT
Lorna
Happy 40th Birthday.
From Mum, Tom, George, Maisie and all the family. With Love xxx



HEADLAND
Elizabeth (Bet)
Mum & Nan.
Miss you now and always.
Love Tim, Heather, Jemma, Sam and Josh. XXX

JENNINGS — Cyril Beloved Husband of Sheila passed away peacefully on Tuesday 15th November at NGH aged 87. Much loved Brother-in-law of Laura and Harry, Jean and Peter, Gordon and Pearl, David and Rita, Linda and Graham and all of their families. Will be sadly missed, deepest sympathy to Sheila and family.

**Obituaries****KELLY**

Des Sadly passed away Brother-in-law to Sue and Paul, Uncle to Kate and Sam. At Peace

KELLY

Des. Dear Brother in Law of Terry and Ann, Uncle to Andrew and Siobhan, Richard and Beata. Goodnight, God bless. Deepest sympathy to Pauline and family.

LEONARD

Tommy. Those who we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday. Sleep peacefully Uncle Tommy. Love Mark.

Obituaries**Obituaries****ALLEN**
Joseph William Ivor

Born September 12th 1931 in Northampton England. Died November 18th 2011 Kelowna BC Canada. Sadly missed by his Wife Rita, Son John & Valerie. Grandsons Joseph & Richell, Gary & Christy, and Great Granddaughter Ella. Brother Clive & Georgia and Niece Nicki & Ed and Family. God Bless. xx

BEARD — Nicky. Dear friend of Sandy and John. Another beautiful rose in God's garden. XXX

BEARD
Nicola

Passed away 22.11.11. Dear beloved Daughter of Ron and Rita. Now resting peacefully after a long illness. Always in our hearts. Much love, Mum and Dad. xx

LEONARD
Tommy

God saw that you were weary and did what He thought best,

He put His arms around you and took you home to rest. Memories are a gift to treasure, ours of you will last forever.

Sleep peacefully Uncle Tommy. Love Debbie, Calum and Kayleigh. XXX

MCMANUS
Arthur Herbert

Passed away 17th November 2011

Sadly missed by your loving Wife Kitty (Catherine) & Son Kevin

We cannot imagine life without you although we know that you have gone to your eternal rest and that some day we will be together again in God's glory. Kitty & Kevin

Now reunited with Son Peter John.

The Funeral Service with Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 30th November 11am at Saint Francis & Therese Catholic Parish Church, Overdale Close, East Hunsbury Northampton NN4 0RZ followed by Interment at Towcester Road Cemetery

Family flowers only

Obituaries**MCMANUS**
Arthur

You suffered gracefully & may you be rewarded in God's glory

Many happy memories of our visits to you. You will be very much missed during future visits. Brother-in-law Peter Hynes & Friend Maura

Much love also from Children Stephen, Christine & Martin, Patrick & Maxine & their Families

OBITUARIES**MCMANUS**
Arthur

We never had time to say goodnight

Condolences to Kitty, Peter and Maura

From Theresa and Family Mandy David and Tony

Masses to be offered

MINNEY — Richard (Dick). Treasured memories of a dear Cousin. Will be sadly missed by Susan and John, now in God's safe keeping.

MINNEY — Richard. Passed away suddenly on November 23rd 2011. Brother in Law of Tony and Mary, Uncle of Catherine and David. Deepest sympathy to Anne and family.

NORTON — Debra. Lives too short. Wishes Cynthia, Scott and Sam.

NORTON — Debra. Rest in Peace. Lesley, Robin, Zara, Zoe and Will.

ROBBINS — Anthony (Tony) passed away peacefully on 21st November 2011 at NGH aged 78. Loving Dad and Granddad to Bernice, Gerald, Steven, Richard and Martyn. So many treasured memories, you will be sadly missed but never forgotten.

ROBBINS — Anthony. To the best Dad, Granddad and Great Granddad. Thank you for all the love and happy memories. We will miss you always. Christine, Mick, Kieran, Laura and Joshua.

ROBBINS — Anthony. Rest in peace, you will always be in our hearts and thoughts. Loving Father and Grandfather to Des, Karen, Shane and Sophie. Sleep well.

ROBBINS — Anthony. To the kindest, most giving man in the world. You will be missed but always treasured. All our love Eleanor and Grandchildren Daniel and Katie.

Obituaries**ROBINSON**
Alan Peter

Passed away on 27th November at NGH aged 85 years

Dearly loved Husband for 66 years of Eileen Uncle to Ian & Linda Great Uncle to Thomas & Matthew

I've lost my life's companion A life linked with my own No one knows how much I'll miss you As I journey on alone.

OBITUARIES**ROBINSON**
Alan Peter

On 27th November in NGH Alan aged 85 years

Dear Brother of the late Paul and Brother-in-law to Kitty Special Uncle to Helen, Julie, Sally, and their families

Alan was a great sports man and was very proud to be Vice President N.T.F.A and N.T.F.L

OBITUARIES**ROBINSON**
Alan

Dearly loved Brother to Simon and Joanne and their families

Acknowledgements**SAMWELL**
Joan Norah

Fred & Family wish to express their sincere thanks to all who sent cards and messages of condolence and attended Joan's funeral and joined with us to celebrate her life.

We also thank the carers from Housing 21 for looking after her and the doctors and nurses for the tender care she had whilst in hospital.

PALLISTER — John 27.11.2010

Beloved Husband, Father and Grandfather.

Forever in our Hearts.

In Memoriam**BARRATT**
Ronald Alfred

Died 27/11/2003 Eight years have passed us by and often I just wonder why. Sometimes I still feel quite sad, that's because I miss you Dad.

Love you lots, miss you loads Val and John XXX

REEVE
Viv

Passed away 30.11.08.

Precious memories of a wonderful Mum, Nan and Great Nan. Loved and missed so very much. Special thoughts stay in our hearts.

Janet, Sue and families. XX

OBITUARIES**ROBBINS**
Anthony

To the best man in the world. You will be missed but always treasured. All our love Eleanor and Grandchildren Daniel and Katie.

OBITUARIES**ROBBINS**
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Family Announcements

Birthday Memories

FOLWELL
Christine

Another shared birthday passes by, but my love for you will never ever die. Miss you lots Chrissy.

Love John
xxx



Birthday Memories

TOUGH
Kirsten Emma

In fondest loving memory of my dear sister Kirsty, who was born on 29th November 1973 and who died suddenly on 18th November 1991. Always remembered and loved. Your devoted Brother, Graeme. xxx

HENNESSY
Teresa

24th November Happy birthday Mum. We just wanted to say how much you're loved and missed everyday

Your ever loving Family Husband Michael, The late Denise, Pete, Sinead & Keiran, Geraldine & Paddy, Linda, Karl & Daniel, Julie, Brian, Craig & Aidan, Michael, Marie, James, Holly, Natasha & Lucy. xxxx



STRATFORD



David

Thinking of my wonderful Son David on your Birthday in Heaven. As I opened my eyes this morning, I looked to Heaven above. I whispered Happy Birthday Son and sent you all my love.

Those special years will not return, when we were all together. But with love in my heart, You'll walk with me forever. Missing you so much David. Love Always, Your broken hearted Mum. xx



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Closing Date: Monday 12 December 2011

Interviews to be held on Thursday 22 December 2011

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- Part Qualified/Qualified
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Skills required: Sage Line 50, Cost Accounting, Management Accounting, Excel

CV's in the first instance to
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geoff.mason@fusion-events.com
or Bedford Business Centre, Mile Road,
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Application forms (we do not accept CV's), returnable by Monday 5 December 2011, 5pm. These are available from Human Resources, Swanspool House, Wellingborough NN8 1BP. Telephone (01933) 231538 (24 hour answer service) Textphone (01933) 278015 or email personnel@wellingborough.gov.uk

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NEW MAN IN CHARGE - Aidy Boothroyd was this week expected to be named the new manager of the Cobblers

Cobblers go for Aidy as new boss

AIDY BOOTHROYD was this week expected to be confirmed as the new Cobblers manager.

The former Watford, Colchester United and Coventry City boss will be unveiled as Gary Johnson's successor at Sixfields eight months after he left the Ricoh Arena.

Boothroyd ran the rule over the Cobblers squad in a behind-closed-doors reserve-team friendly at Moulton College on Tuesday.

The deal brings to an end a two-week search for a new man, in which time the team has been beaten twice under two different caretakers.

A 7-2 trouncing under David Lee cost the former assistant manager his post at the club and was followed by a 4-1 defeat at Plymouth Argyle last week in which Tim Flowers admitted the side had been 'murdered.'

Town currently lie just three points off the npower League Two drop zone and Boothroyd's primary task will be to secure Football League status for the club.

The 40-year-old will also have to address a Sixfields squad that is bursting at the seams with more than 30 players, although around half a dozen players are out of contract or have loan deals that expire in January.

In terms of rebuilding, one player who may immediately come into the new manager's thoughts is Coventry centre-back Nathan Cameron.

The powerful defender could be available on loan from the Sky Blues to bolster a Cobblers defence that has shipped an alarming 18 goals in their last four league matches.

Cameron was highly rated by Boothroyd in their time together at City, and with the youngster being third-choice in his position a deal could be on the cards.

Betting was suspended on next Northampton manager over the weekend, but Boothroyd was available at one point at odds of 25/1 to take up the reins at Sixfields.

The new manager began his coaching career in the youth set-up at Peterborough United before working at Norwich City and West Bromwich Albion before being appointed first-team coach at Leeds United.

Boothroyd became one of the youngest managers in the league when he took over at Watford in 2005 and guided the Hornets to the Premier League and an FA Cup semi-final during his three years at Vicarage Road. After leaving there, he took charge at Colchester United and Coventry City.

The Cobblers are without a game this weekend.

Dickson ready for Tigers battle

LEE DICKSON says there is no chance Saints will be fooled by Leicester's lowly position in the Premiership table ahead of Saturday's east midlands derby.

Saints are preparing for their first clash with Leicester this season on the back of a thumping 30-8 win over champions Saracens that saw them climb into the play-off positions.

Arch-rivals Leicester, meanwhile, are in an unfamiliar 10th following a terrible start to the season.

But it is a very congested Premiership this season and victory for the Tigers on Saturday would see them

draw level on points with Saints.

And Dickson said: "It is always going to be a good game, no matter where we are in the table."

"Leicester versus Northampton is always going to be a big game. The fans get excited about it, and the boys are excited for it."

"If you can't get up for a derby there is no point being there, we will go there with the same intentions as we did on Saturday and hopefully get the win."

"We have got to prepare well this week, put the Sarries game to bed on Monday and prepare for Leicester as we always do. We will go to Welford Road with 100 per cent commitment and go from there."

After two successive defeats in the Heineken Cup Saints returned to form with a bang on Saturday, a first-half three-try blitz seeing off Saracens in style.

But Saints have not won at Welford Road since February 2007, with director of rugby Jim Mallinder yet to enjoy the winning feeling at Leicester.

The Leicester fortress has been rocked this season by the World Cup and injuries, that has left them still searching for their first win at home in the league this season.

Dickson added: "Saturday's win against Saracens was very important, we were very disappointed with how we played against Scar-

lets. But the sign of a good team is canning a defeat, coming out and showing the fans, the club and showing the badge that we want to play for this club."

"We always know we have got a good attack, but the most pleasing thing on Saturday was our defence."

"It was absolutely superb from one to 23, we hit them hard and gave them nothing."

"We were very disappointed to let them score in the last minute, but we pride ourselves on defence. Our attack has been brilliant."

"George Pisi came in at 13 and played very well, which was very good for us."

